## Amendment to the Claims:

Claims 1-13 (Canceled)

- 14. (Previously Presented) A stabilizer combination for halogen-containing thermoplastic resins, comprising:
- a) calcium oxide and/or calcium hydroxide, where these, where appropriate, may have been surface-modified, and have a particle size of not more than 200  $\mu$ m;
  - b) at least one tin compound of the general formula (I)

$$R_n Sn(X-R')_{4-n} \qquad (I)$$

Where

n is 1 or 2;

each of the groups R, which may be identical or different, is a straight-chain or branched alkyl group having from 1 to 22 carbon atoms;

each of the groups X, which may be identical or different, is -S- or -O-; and each of the groups R', which may be identical or different, is a straight-chain or branched alkyl group having from 1 to 22 carbon atoms, or a -[C(O)]<sub>m</sub>-L-C(O)-O-R" group or a -[C(O)]<sub>m</sub>-L-O-C(O)-R" group, where m is 0 or 1, -L- is a divalent connecting group which is selected from alkylene groups having from 1 to 4 carbon atoms, or a vinylene group, and R" is an alykl group having from 1 to 22 carbon atoms; or

two (X-R') groups may have bonding to one another to form a heterocyclic ring of the formula (I') or (I")

where L is as defined above; and

c) at least one zinc compound selected from liquid and solid zinc salts of saturated, unsaturated, straight-chain, or branched mono- or polyfunctional aromatic or aliphatic carboxylic acids, zinc oxide and zinc hydroxide;

with the proviso that no perchlorate is present in the stabilizer combination.

15. (Previously Presented) A stabilizer combination as claimed in claim 14, wherein the amount of component (a) present is from 0.1 to 5 parts by weight.

- 16. (Previously Presented) A stabilizer combination as claimed in claim 14, wherein component (b) is at least one tin compound of the formula (I), where R is an alkyl group having from 1 to 8 carbon atoms.
- 17. (Previously Presented) A stabilizer combination as claimed in claim 14, characterized in that component (b) is at least one tin compound of the formula (I), where R' is an alkyl group having from 8 to 18 carbon atoms, or a -[C(O)]<sub>m</sub>-L-C(O)-O-R" group or a -[C(O)]<sub>m</sub>-L-O-C(O)-R" group, where -L- is a methylene, ethylene, or vinylene group, and R" is an alkyl group having from 6 to 12 carbon atoms.
- 18. (Previously Presented) A stabilizer combination as claimed in claim 14, characterized in that component (b) is at least one tin compound of the formula (I), where two (X-R') groups have bonding to one another to form a heterocyclic ring of the formula (I') or (I"), where -L- is an ethylene group or a vinylene group.
- 19. (Previously Presented) A stabilizer combination according to claim 14, characterized in that the amount of component (b) present is from 0.1 3 parts by weight.
- 20. (Previously Presented) A stabilizer combination according to claim 14, characterized in that component (c) is a zinc salt of a saturated aliphatic carboxylic acid having from 10 to 18 carbon atoms.
- 21. (Previously Presented) A stabilizer combination as claimed in claim 14, characterized in that the amount of component (c) present is from 0.1 to 3 parts by weight.
- 22. (Previously Presented) A thermoplastic resin composition, comprising at least one halogen-containing thermoplastic resin and a stabilizer combination according to claim 14.
- 23. (Previously Presented) A thermoplastic resin composition according to claim 22, characterized in that the halogen-containing thermoplastic resin is polyvinyl chloride.
- 24. (Canceled Without Prejudice) The use of the stabilizer combination according to claim 14 for stabilizing halogen-containing thermoplastic resins.

Appl. No. 09/937,647 Amdt. dated December 23, 2003 Reply to Office action of September 25, 2003

- 25. (Canceled Without Prejudice) The use according to claim 24 for stabilizing polyvinyl chloride (PVC).
- 26. (Canceled Without Prejudice) The use according to claim 25 for stabilizing rigid PVC (UPVC).
- 27. (New) A method of stabilizing a halogen-containing thermoplastic resin, the method comprising adding a stabilizer combination according to claim 14 to a halogen-containing thermoplastic resin.
- 28. (New) The method according to claim 27, wherein the resin comprises polyvinyl chloride (PVC).
- 29. (New) The method according to claim 27, wherein the resin comprises rigid PVC (UPVC).